

From: [Ruhl, Christopher](#)
To: [McPherson, Kenneth](#)
Cc: [Assunto, Carmen](#); [Gray, David](#); [Crossland, Ronnie](#); [Stenger, Wren](#); [Acosta, Gerardo](#); [Enders, Jhana](#)
Subject: Re: Press Release
Date: Tuesday, January 3, 2017 1:44:25 PM

Sounds fine.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2017, at 1:43 PM, McPherson, Kenneth <McPherson.Kenneth@epa.gov> wrote:

Chris, any issues of sending this to TDA for review, given their FIFRA authority and on-going investigation? Ken

Kenneth R. McPherson, BCE | Regional Coordinator – Integrated Pest Management |
US EPA Region 6 | 1445 Ross Avenue (6MM-XP) | Dallas, TX 75202 | 214.665.6754 |
[Be PestWise](#) | [Support IPM in Schools](#) | [Prevent Mosquitoes](#) | [Prevent Zika](#)

From: Ruhl, Christopher

Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 1:02 PM

To: Assunto, Carmen <Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov>; Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Crossland, Ronnie <Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov>; Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>; Acosta, Gerardo <Acosta.Gerardo@epa.gov>; McPherson, Kenneth <McPherson.Kenneth@epa.gov>

Cc: Enders, Jhana <Enders.Jhana@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Press Release

I am looping in MM to make sure that they are onboard. I would have concerns with the last statement. The TPPC would not have established procedures for disposal. We will need to coordinate with TPPC to give them the instruction for disposal or perhaps we can set up a collections locally for any calls that come in.

The TPPC representative will obtain the necessary information and provide you with further instructions for disposal of the product by the appropriate authorities.

Chris Ruhl

USEPA R6 Emergency Response Team Leader
Federal On Scene Coordinator
(214) 665-7356 office

From: Assunto, Carmen

Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 12:32 PM

To: Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Ruhl, Christopher <Ruhl.Christopher@epa.gov>; Crossland, Ronnie <Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov>

Cc: Enders, Jhana <Enders.Jhana@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: Press Release

Importance: High

Please send comments/approval on this draft press release from the City. He is planning on a news conference at 1pm and has asked for review. Quick turnaround. Carmen

PRESS

RELEASE

CONTACT:

JESSE PATTON

Public Communications

jesse.patton@amarillo.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (806) 378-5219 (office)
January 3, 2017

Multiple Agencies Coordinating Further HAZMAT Response

Amarillo, TX – The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas Panhandle Poison Center (TPPC), and City of Amarillo are working collaboratively to investigate the tragic incident which occurred as a result of misuse of a regulated pesticide known as aluminum phosphide. The site of the incident is secured and does not pose any health hazards to the surrounding community. Multiple local, state, and federal agencies are committed and working together to ensure the public's safety.

If you believe you have been exposed to this regulated pesticide, contact the TPPC at 800-222-1222. A representative will have a series of questions to assist you in determining appropriate steps to follow based upon the information you provide.

If you are not a licensed pesticide applicator and believe you may have aluminum or zinc phosphide in your possession, the City of Amarillo advises that you immediately evacuate individuals and animals from the area where it is stored and then contact the TPPC. Only licensed professionals should have access to and are equipped to dispose of this product. You should not attempt to dispose of these chemicals yourself as there is a risk of injury and death. The TPPC representative will obtain the necessary information and provide you with further instructions for disposal of the product by the appropriate authorities.

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From: Patton, Jesse [<mailto:Jesse.Patton@amarillo.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 12:29 PM

To: Assunto, Carmen <Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov>

Subject: Press Release

Please see attached.

Jesse Patton

Office of Public Communication and Community Engagement